

BOB FELLER'S

★ ALL-STARS ★

PRESS RELEASE

ONE PAGE OF PAIGE

Satchel Paige, whose Negro All-Stars will provide the opposition for Bob Feller's All-Stars in most games on their coast-to-coast barnstorming trip, has pitched in Puerto Rico, Cuba, Mexico, South America, Hawaii, Japan, the West Indies and most of the United States...a legendary baseball figure, the tall, slim, lazy-looking Paige displays an economy of motion in his pitching style.

Joe Williams, sports editor of the New York World-Telegram, in writing of Paige, said, "There can be no question that if he had been tinted a less somber shade he would have been a major league standout"... H. G. Salsinger, sports editor of the Detroit News, says he's the best Negro pitcher of all time.

Raw speed first lifted Paige to prominence...he could throw a ball past any batter who faced him...he pitched against nearly all the leading big league hitters in the last 15 years and they mainly are responsible for his glowing reputation...they proclaimed him the best pitcher in the country...Satchel beat Dizzy Dean four times in six games when Dean was at the peak of his career.

Paige wears a size 14 shoe, which was the reason for the nickname "Satchelfoot", later shortened to "Satchel"...he has a brother, John, who is a deacon in the Mt. Zion Methodist Church in Mobile...claims he is about 40 years old and has been pitching steadily since 1924...says he averages about \$25,000 a year...he has lost some of his speed but has developed control, along with a knuckle ball and a good curve, to remain at the top.

Satchel has appeared in more than 100 games a year, in the United States and abroad, following the sun, pitching nine-inning games on Sundays and holidays and two and three innings here and there during the week...in 1940 he pitched in 134 games, within 20 of a complete schedule for a major league club...he has had sore arms but seldom had a trainer...says his lifetime batting average is over .300.

Paige averaged 10.4 strikeouts per game one season and had a record of 31 games won and four lost in Negro league competition...rarely sees a major league game, principally because he's too busy...Paige is a native of Kansas City...says flat-footed hitters are hardest to fool and that control merely is a matter of hard work.

#####